

# BULLETIN

of the

## AMERICAN ROCK GARDEN SOCIETY

---

Vol. 10

MARCH-APRIL, 1952

No. 2

---

.....

Round and About in British Gardens.....	18
<i>Will Ingwersen</i>	
"The Hundred Best Rock Plants".....	24
<i>Dr. C. R. Worth</i>	
"Woodland".....	29
<i>Else M. Frye</i>	
Annual Meeting.....	31
Concerning Limestone and Lime.....	31
<i>Doretta Klaber</i>	
Letters to the Editor.....	32
Report of Collector of Slides.....	34
<i>Mrs. Warder I. Higgins</i>	

.....

# DIRECTORATE

## BULLETIN

*Editor Emeritus*

DR. EDGAR T. WHERRY, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia 4, Pa.

*Editor*

G. G. NEARING, Ramsey, N. J.

*Associate Editors*

MRS. EDWARD M. BABB, Portland, Maine

DOROTHY EBEL HANSELL, Summit, N. J.

CARL S. ENGLISH, JR., Seattle Wash.

MRS. J. NORMAN HENRY, Gladwyne, Pa.

MRS. G. R. MARRIAGE, Colorado Springs, Colo.

*Exchange Editor*

HAROLD EPSTEIN, Larchmont, N. Y.

## AMERICAN ROCK GARDEN SOCIETY

*Honorary President*.....MRS. CLEMENT HOUGHTON, Chestnut Hill, Mass.

*President*.....HAROLD EPSTEIN, Larchmont, N. Y.

*Corresponding Secretary*.....DOROTHY EBEL HANSELL, Summit, N. J.

*Recording Secretary*.....MRS. IDA A. THOMAS, Paterson, N. J.

*Financial Secretary*.....MRS. J. B. JOHNSON, Pompton Lakes, N. J.

*Treasurer*.....MRS. ALEX D. REID, Mountain Lakes, N. J.

*Vice-Presidents*

LEONARD J. BUCK

BRIAN O. MULLIGAN

MRS. HARRY HAYWARD

ARTHUR R. VIRGIN

MISS ELIZABETH G. HILL

*Directors—*

*Term Expires 1952*

WALTER D. BLAIR

MRS. J. M. HODSON

E. L. TOTTEN

MRS. MORTIMER J. FOX

MRS. CLEMENT S. HOUGHTON

*Term Expires 1953*

KURT W. BAASCH

MRS. M. J. FITZPATRICK

H. LINCOLN FOSTER

PETER J. VAN MELLE

DR. C. R. WORTH

*Director of Seed Exchange*

MISS MADELEINE HARDING, 22 Robinson St., Cambridge, Mass.

## REGIONAL CHAIRMEN

*Northwestern*.....C. LEO HITCHCOCK, Seattle, Wash.

*Oregon Sub-Group*.....FLOYD W. McMULLEN, Portland, Oregon

*Northern*.....MRS. WARDER I. HIGGINS, Butte, Mont.

*Rocky Mountain*.....MRS. G. R. MARRIAGE, Colorado Springs, Colo.

*Central*.....MRS. GLENN FISHER, Oshkosh, Wisconsin

*Lakes*.....ROBERT M. SENIOR, Cincinnati, Ohio

*North Atlantic*.....E. L. TOTTEN, Ho-Ho-Kus, N. J.

*New England*.....ALEXANDER HEIMLICH, Woburn, Mass.

*Maine Sub-Group*.....MRS. NETTIE HAMILTON, Portland, Maine

*Published by the American Rock Garden Society, incorporated under the laws of the State of New Jersey. You are invited to join—annual dues \$3.50. Address communications regarding membership and dues to Mrs. J. B. Johnson, Box 151, Pompton Lakes, N. J., other matters relating to the Society, Mrs. Dorothy E. Hansell, 10 Pittsford Way, Summit, N. J. Address to G. G. Nearing, R.F.D. Box 216, Ramsey, N. J., manuscripts and other matter relating to the Bulletin.*

# BULLETIN

of the

## AMERICAN ROCK GARDEN SOCIETY

G. G. Nearing, Editor

---

VOL. 10

MARCH - APRIL, 1952

No. 2

---

### ROUND AND ABOUT IN BRITISH ROCK GARDENS

WILL INGWERSEN, ENGLAND

THE cultivation of alpine and rock garden plants in Britain has now reached a very high level indeed, and indeed, many of the enthusiastic amateur growers are rivalling the professionals in their skill. Those members of the American Rock Garden Society who came to Europe in the spring of 1951 to attend the Alpine Plant Conference, and visited the shows held in London and in Scotland, will have appreciated this fact as they walked past the long tables filled with well grown plants exhibited by amateur members of the Alpine Garden Society, and the Scottish Rock Garden Club.

Your reporter, who has his finger in most of the "alpine" pies being cooked in Britain, sends you with these notes some pictures of plants which have caused much interest during the past year. Some of them are novelties, others are old and well tried friends. A few of them I know to be already growing in the U.S.A., others may not yet be known there, but, from my admittedly limited experience of the diverse climates and conditions in America, I am confident that, in one place or another, they could all be grown successfully. My readers will be competent to judge for themselves if they stand a chance of growing them as I describe them, and the situations and soils in which they flourish in Britain or in their native haunts.

*Asphodelus acaulis* was first described in 1798, and has been cultivated for many years although it has never become common. It dwells in high mountain pastures in north-west Africa, but, in spite of this unpromising habitat, it is very hardy and, if the right position be selected for it, will survive the worst an English winter can produce without turning a hair. I grew it for a number of years, with winter temperatures down to zero on several occasions, fully exposed on the top of a bleak hillside with no shelter from north or east. It is a deciduous plant, forming a cluster of immensely long and tough, whip-like roots which like to plunge deep down into rather heavy soil. It is no use giving *Asphodelus acaulis* a light, gritty, sharply drained soil, it will not appreciate this at all, but prefers a more solid diet, and is happier in a rather greasy loam. It does not, of course, enjoy being waterlogged when at rest—or at any other time—its soil should be moisture retentive, but not ill drained or sour. The clusters



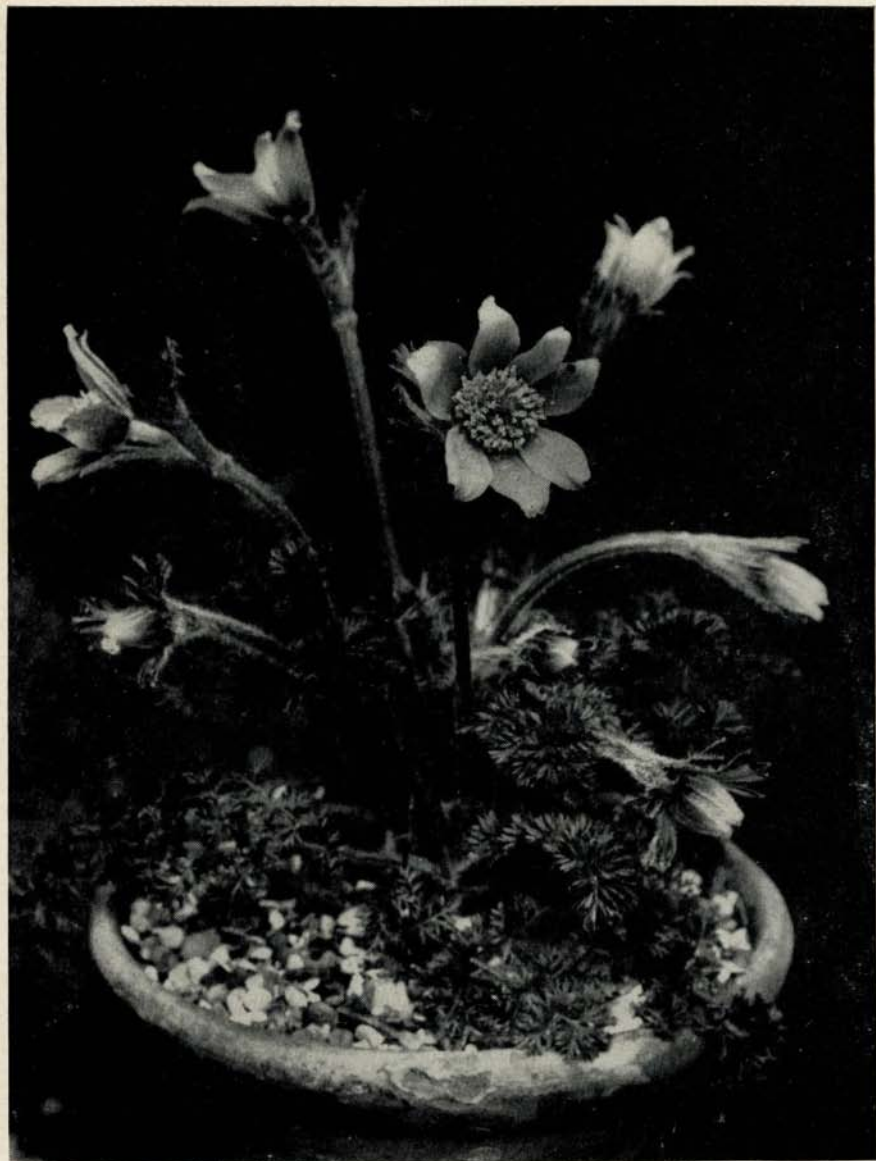
*Asphodelus acaulis*, with deep pink flowers on very short stems, is hardier than most African plants.

of long, rather lax green leaves stand erect at first, but fall apart and reveal the almost stemless flowers in spring and early summer. The blossoms are deep pink, with prominent, rather dark stamens, and the beauty of this interesting plant is well revealed in the accompanying photograph of a plant—grown, incidentally, in a deep fern pot, a very successful method of cultivating it where there is doubt as to its hardiness, or if it is required to decorate an alpine house.

Even the most enthusiastic and whole-hearted lover of alpine plants is apt to have his attention withdrawn by a beautiful shrub, and the graceful clematis which received the Royal Horticultural Society's Award of Merit in October 1950 is worthy of notice. Old records tell us that *Clematis orientalis* was introduced to cultivation in 1731, but it now becomes evident that the plant which has so long been grown under this name is a form of *C. tangutica*. The true *C. orientalis* has only recently been introduced, and is a strikingly different plant. It is of graceful and vigorous growth, forming wide, tangled masses of interlaced stems. It loves to climb through a small tree, or to scramble over a trellis attached to a sunny wall or fence. The small, pinnate leaves are soft green, and, in very late summer, and on into winter, it bears incredible numbers of two-inch wide flowers of soft yellow, with a great central boss of soft purple stamens. On warm, sunny days there is an elusive fragrance, but the great feature of the species is the actual texture of the petals. The flower looks exactly as if it had been cut from the thick skin of one of those great Jaffa oranges. *C. orientalis* is proving an easy plant to grow, and has so far shown no signs of being anything but imperturbably hardy. My own plants have flourished in any reasonably good, well drained soil, and it seems to flower as well in partial

shade as in the full sun. I am told that, amongst the wild plants from which the seeds were collected were forms bearing flowers of other colors, but none of these variants has so far turned up amongst the seedlings which I have seen.

I know that *Anemone vernalis* is grown and loved in America. I have seen it, both in the eastern states and in the far west, as well as in several Canadian gardens, but the photograph which I send with these rather very random notes struck me as being so perfect in its portrayal of a supremely beautiful plant,



The primrose-yellow *Anemone Pulsatilla caucasica*, a new introduction, is causing a stir in England.

that I ventured to include it. *A. vernalis* is not really difficult to grow, but it is not always easy to make it flower in cultivation. The buds always form in the late summer and autumn, and remain, silky-haired and full of promise, buried deep in the heart of the plant during the winter. I believe it is the winter conditions which determine success or failure. We cannot duplicate the natural conditions, which cover the plants with a blanket of snow for several months, and we cannot ensure that they will not be induced to make several false starts into growth, encouraged by spells of mild weather. If, however, the buds can greet the spring unharmed, and grow away rapidly when winter has finally departed, then we are assured one of the most lovely sights which can delight a gardener's heart, as the great goblets of opalescent pearly-white petals expand,



The old favorite, *Anemone vernalis* deserves what special care it may require.

each one shrouded about in a veiling of tawny silk. The growers I know who have the greatest success with the plant, grow it in a mixture of rich loam, with a little leafmold and/or granulated peat, and plenty of sharp grit. They give it ample depth of soil in which to plunge its strong roots, and leave it well alone when once firmly established.

A newcomer amongst anemones, and one which has caused some excitement, is the primrose-yellow version of the Pasque Flower, *A. Pulsatilla*. America has its own forms of this widely variable species, a number of which I have been fortunate enough to see growing, and very lovely some of them are. Their progeny still lives in my own garden and brings me great joy each spring. *A. P. caucasica*, however, is really something delightfully new. The photograph I send is of a pot grown plant; it grows a little taller and stronger when estab-

lished in open soil. The leaves are as ferny and attractive as those of any other Pasque Flower, but the flowers, not very large, in comparison to some forms, yet large enough, are rather funnel shaped, and the petals are primrose-yellow, varying slightly in depth of color amongst plants raised for seed. The name is under suspicion, but for lack of a more authentic one must stand until research has proved or disproved it. Fortunately it is as easy to grow as any other form of *A. Pulsatilla*, and asks for the same position and treatment.

*Thymus membranaceus*, from the hot hills of Spain, has been grown in England for some years now, and I believe it is not unknown in the gardens of connoisseurs across the Atlantic, but we have recently been introduced to another Thyme, also a Spaniard, and of somewhat similar general appearance, but even more striking. This too, has recently received the coveted Award of Merit. It is an intensely aromatic bush of some nine inches, with rigid, many angled stems clad in grey-green leaves. The long, tubular flowers of soft lilac are produced from great papery calyces, which are themselves flushed pink and mauve. Its name is *T. longiflorus*, and it is, as can be seen from the photograph of the plant which gained the Award, extremely free flowering. It is not a plant for



For a climate suited to Spanish plants *Thymus longiflorus* makes a striking bushlet.

the open rock garden in any but a favoured, warm and sunny climate, but it is an excellent alpine house plant, and will survive even severe frosts as long as it is kept dry.

My last picture is of one of those supremely lovely hybrid gentians which have been occurring lately between several of the autumn flowering Asiatic species. They are a nuisance really, for they are so confusing the issue that we soon shall not be able to point to any one plant and say with certainty "that is

*Veitchiorum*," or, "that is *ornata*, or *Farreri*, or *prolata*," as the case may be. Unfortunately all the hybrids are fertile, and we are raising a series of gentians, handsome enough in all conscience, but only identifiable as a strain. The particular plant illustrated has been named *G. x. farorna*, and is, as the name implies, a cross between *GG. Farreri* and *ornata*. It was raised by Mr. Berry of Enfield, our genius of the gentian family, and is a very handsome plant indeed. The color is a deep, clear blue and the flowers short, wide, bells, borne on little stems close above the clusters of deep green leaves. The actual plant in the picture is growing in an old stone trough, and the stone chippings around it are thick with self-sown seedlings from the previous year's blossoms. Heaven only knows what this progeny will be like, for there are at least half a dozen other Asiatic gentians nearby, any or all of which could have fathered the children.

Well, the summer is ending, and a difficult season it has been. There have been short spells of warm, sunny weather, but on the whole it has been dull, and with far too much rain. We approach the winter with too much lush, soft growth, and I fear the consequences of early frosts.



The hybrid gentian *farorna* is one of many forms recently named and introduced, deep, clear blue and very dwarf.

---

To members who may have been wondering why the Bulletin has recently arrived months late and bristling with typographical errors, it can now be explained that we were victims of an ingeniously wilful printer, who outguessed us at every turn—an ordeal now happily ended.

With the change of printers, we find it advisable to change from a bi-monthly to a quarterly, to begin with the issue of July, 1952. The total amount



of reading matter for the year will be increased, and our need is as urgent as ever for manuscripts on rock gardening, the behavior of alpine plants, and accounts of expeditions into the mountains where they grow. We particularly want good photographs of members' rock gardens, and with the season of full bloom almost upon us, it is time to wipe the dust off the camera lens and be sure the shutter is working.

## “THE HUNDRED BEST ROCK PLANTS”

(A SPRING SHOPPING GUIDE)

DR. C. R. WORTH, GROTON, N. Y.

“THE dozen best rock plants, of which there are at least a hundred,” a statement attributed to Clarence Elliott, has led to numerous lists of a hundred varieties of plants suited to the average rock garden. Most of these lists are designed for British conditions rather than for those of the eastern United States, and quite a few of the plants suggested are hardly suitable for inclusion with “alpines.”

The list which I am presenting is not limited to precisely one hundred of the best plants: it may be fewer, or it may run considerably over the magic number. All of the species and varieties mentioned are easy to grow under any reasonable treatment, and with few exceptions (specifically noted) quite long-lived, although it must be remembered that few alpines, and not all rock plants, under even ideal conditions, attain the life-span of a Methuselah. More important to the would-be purchaser, every plant mentioned has been offered within the past year or two by at least one of our leading nurseries, so that there should be no difficulty in obtaining it.

By “reasonable treatment” I mean no more than this: a fairly friable and well-drained soil, with enough humus so that it will not dry out within an hour or two of a heavy downpour; for shade-loving plants a fair amount of leaf-mold or peat moss mixed with the soil is desirable, though not indispensable. Except where noted specifically as sun, or shade lovers, the plants are grateful for a few hours of light shade, though this need not necessarily come in the middle of the day.

Genuine woodlanders are for the most part omitted, for in my opinion they are not part of the rock garden proper, though most useful in its vicinity. The plants have been selected for freedom and beauty of bloom or of foliage and habit, with the exception of one or two that are perhaps to be regarded more as curiosities. Several species will perhaps cause raised eyebrows, being generally regarded as somewhat difficult, but all such questionable plants I have observed growing happily under such trying conditions as those offered by the gardens of Grace Ballantine and Arthur Osmun, in central New Jersey, or that of Louise Beebe Wilder, in Bronxville. No plant listed is a rapid spreader, although in a few cases a mature specimen may require as much as two square feet.

Here, then is my list, from which the novice can select with assurance that his (or her) garden will be populated with a varied and representative collection of really worth-while plants, and which the experienced grower may well scan to see what delights he has been missing. Descriptions are omitted, to save space; they may be obtained from catalogs or books, or better still, by visiting a good nursery in early spring.

ACHILLEA demands full sun and sharp drainage, and is often rather short-lived, but *A. ageratifolia*, at least, should be tried.

ALLIUM *cyaneum* and *A. flavum minor* should be regarded as indispensable summer bloomers.

ALYSSUM *murale* (*argenteum*) is one of the easiest of dwarf shrubs, and *A. saxatile citrinum*, though often a bit large in growth, makes a fine display. I must confess to a dislike for the double form. Alyssums want all the sun one can give, and will even enjoy drought.

ANDROSACE *sarmentosa* is certainly near the top of the "best dozen," though if permitted it will in time cover several square feet. *AA. lanuginosa* and *sempervivoides* lack the robust good nature of this, but are worth a trial.

ANEMONE *pulsatilla* has a question-mark after its name, for while I have found it very easy, it has a bad reputation around Syracuse, and may not be as generally adaptable as one would guess. *A. nemorosa*, though a woodlander, is too lovely to omit from shady portions of the garden.

AQUILEGIA *akitensis* of catalogs is merely an especially dwarf form of *A. flabellata*, of astonishing beauty, but rather short-lived. Other Aquilegias are either too tall or too tricky for the novice's garden.

ARABIS *albida* (or *alpina*) in white, pink, and double white is a favorite plant for beginners, but takes up considerable space, and is best either omitted from the small garden, or pruned back severely after flowering. *A. androsacea*, a tuft of tiny woolly rosettes, I find easy in a very sunny well drained location, but the plant seems little-grown and I do not know whether it is really acceptable in this list.

ARMERIA *caespitosa* (*juniperifolia*) needs much sun; select other Armerias according to taste.

ASTER *alpinus* is lovely, but impermanent; sun. *A. Kumleinii*, especially the pink form, is a lovely fall bloomer, but decidedly on the large side.

ASTILBE is far too little appreciated. *AA. chinensis pumila*, *simplicifolia*, and a group of *crispa* hybrids, of which Gnome is the most easily obtained, should be in every garden.

AUBRIETA is not as easy nor as generally satisfactory in this country as in England, and is perhaps better passed by.

CAMPANULA offers a tremendous choice, in both habit and needs. For real show perhaps one cannot do better than with the dwarf named forms of *C. carpatica*. *C. cochlearifolia* does not return the writer's love, and is erratic and impermanent here, though such is not generally its reputation. It should be tried, in a position where it is free to ramble, but not trusted to remain. *CC. garganica* and *muralis* are here more permanent, and so is, surprisingly, *C. Stansfieldii*. This and *C. Tommasiniana*, another good doer, making a tuft no more than six inches across, seem temporarily absent from catalogs.

CYTISUS will be permitted to cover, for convenience, all the Brooms, for they may appear under either this name or Genista, according to the whim of the compiler of a catalog. *G. dalmatica* is very prickly, and the gardener must be careful in placing it where it will not be sat upon. *G. horrida* is the loveliest, but almost as delightful are *G. sagittalis* (a favorite food of mice), *G. Villarsi*, and *C. purpureus*—this last a bit of a spreader. All these Brooms, and some others, are fully hardy, but demand full sun and a rather dry location.

CYCLAMEN *neapolitanum* is fully hardy and long-lived, for shade; hardness of the others, even of *C. europaeum*, is suspect.

DIANTHUS is best seen before purchasing, for misnomers are legion, yet almost all are good. Avoid the clove pink type, the Sweet Williams, and the doubles. Perhaps the safest names are those of *DD. arvernensis*, *myrtiner-*

*vius, neglectus*, and *Royii* if one wants small and compact plants. *D. alpinus* is the most beautiful of all, although *D. callizonus* rivals it, but both demand partial shade, and are not universally growable.

DODECATHEON, possibly because the leaves of even young seedlings yellow and die away in early summer, has a reputation for difficulty that in my experience is entirely undeserved; plants here have prospered under adverse conditions that would have taxed the patience of a Sedum. Ordinary well drained soil, preferably on a north slope, or at the northerly base of the rock-work, seem to be the sum of their desires. *D. Meadia*, and one or two western species, are rather large for the rock garden, but all are highly desirable.

The best DRABAS are not readily available, and I have had little experience with the relatively coarse ones usually offered. Their needs are simple, but there are better plants.

DRYAS *octopetala* is really delightful; although I have seen this only on limestone, and usually in scree, in full sun, it seems indifferent to soil conditions. *D. Suendermannii*, apparently not catalogued at the moment, is somewhat coarser, and much more vigorous, though well worth-while.

ERODIUMS have a quiet beauty of foliage and flower, and with the exception of *E. chamaedryoides roseum* are fully hardy in a sunny well drained location, although not particularly long lived. *E. chrysanthum*, as soon as it has attained some size, is almost certain to rot off during a prolonged wet spell.

GENTIANA the rock gardener must try, hoping for the best. *G. acaulis* is not hard to keep alive, and here, at least, usually flowers. *GG. gracilipes (Purdomii)* and *septemfida* are about as easy to grow, and almost certain to bloom. The grassy-leaved Asiatics are easy in a cool garden, but elsewhere temperamental.

GERANIUM *sanguineum lancastriense* is not only the best of its genus for the average rock garden, but one of the best of all rock plants. *G. subcaulescens* is more brilliant in color. *G. Pylzowianum* either will not grow at all, or will take the whole garden. I am trying it as a ground cover for autumn Crocus: the Geranium approves, the Crocus are debating the matter. *GG. Farreri* and *argenteum*, rarely obtainable, are real gems, while *G. cinereum* serves as a somewhat inferior substitute for the latter.

GEUM *Borisii* invariably excites admiration. The dwarf hybrids, such as Waight's Brilliant, have proved extremely shy-flowering here.

GLOBULARIA *bellidifolia, cordifolia*, and *nana* are not particularly showy, but useful for their evergreen foliage, though often cut back in a severe winter.

HEATHERS are available in many genera, species and named varieties, some of which are difficult, and others not too hardy. For late summer bloom, select according to taste from the many named varieties of *Calluna vulgaris* and do not overlook *Erica tetralix*. *E. carnea* will furnish vari-colored flowers throughout the winter months.

HELIANTHEMUM is fine for rock walls, but rather too rampageous (and too blatant) for the choice rock garden. However, prostrate Ben Nevis so far seems fit to associate with the better rock plants, and perhaps there are others of equally restrained character which I have not tried. All are extremely easy in full sun.

IBERIS *saxatilis* is perhaps the best to choose for the rock garden. The varieties of *I. sempervirens* suffer from the same fault of over-enthusiasm as do Helianthemums.

IRIS *cristata*, though not a rock plant, deserves a place with the best of these, in light shade, as does smaller *I. lacustris*. *I. minuta* is easy, but usually shy-flowering. While gardeners farther south rejoice in exquisite *I. gracilipes*, it is barely hardy here, and I have never coaxed a bloom from it. The dwarf bearded varieties I feel are out of place in a rock garden, with the exception of *I. mellita rubro-marginata* and possibly *I. pumila azurea*. The lovely westerners are dismal failures here, hardy, but unable to tolerate our spring weather.

LEONTOPODIUM *alpinum* may be grown for its sensational value in a hot dry place, but is neither beautiful nor long enduring.

LITHOSPERMUM *diffusum* (or *prostratum*) may be one of the most popular of all rock plants, but I have found it difficult, somewhat tender, and reluctant to flower. Other species which I grow successfully are hardly beginner's plants, nor are they often found in catalogs.

MECONOPSIS *cambrica* is easy to the point of self-sowing, in light shade, but offers little consolation for the refusal of the Blue Poppies to endure eastern summers.

ONOSMA *tauricum* is easy enough, given heat and sun, but rather coarse, and so vigorous in growth that I have finally discarded it, in spite of its lovely yellow trumpets.

PENSTEMON is rather incalculable in behavior, but the "most likely to succeed" seem to be *PP. abietinus*, *Grandallii*, *pinifolius*, and *Menziesii Davidsonii*.

PHLOX *subulata* is so much over-used that one hesitates to include it in any rock garden. Tiny *P. s. Brittonii*, in both pink and white, is so distinct that it is unlikely to be associated with its more flamboyant relatives, and Vivid is quite compact. Camla and Dixie Brilliant are taller and really fine.

PHYTEUMA *Scheuchzeri* deserves a place, for its oddity.

POTENTILLIA *nitida* has such beautiful foliage that is is worth growing in spite of its reluctance to flower; *P. Tonguei* (*tormentilla formosa*), trailing over a rock, will delight one all summer, as will white-flowered *P. fruticosa mandshurica*; this, however, needs room, for in time it will form an almost prostrate mass fully four feet across. All dwarf forms of *P. fruticosa* must be classed among the easiest and best of small shrubs. *P. verna nana* makes an attractive clump of gold in early spring. Other species are best left to Potentilla specialists (if any such exist) for though often pleasing, they lack distinctiveness.

Among the vast number of PRIMULAS very few can possibly meet the requirements of this list: they are either too difficult, or they are happier and more in keeping elsewhere than in the rock garden. Of the rock-loving species, *P. marginata* will be happy in a north-facing crevice, and *P. calycina* (*glaucescens*) in a shady spot in full soil—but the latter flatly refuses to bloom in this garden, and its rosettes are hardly exciting enough to warrant its inclusion as a foliage plant. *P. frondosa* is best at the north base of a rock, in rather heavy soil. Some of the Juliana hybrids, and *P. Juliae* herself, though rather garish, may be used in similar situations. *PP. kisoana*, *heucherifolia* and *Sieboldii* require more nearly woodland conditions, and are happy among ferns, while *PP. denticulata*, *japonica*, and the other candelabras need considerable moisture in light shade, though the first is not too insistent on these. As for *P. acaulis*, the garden Auriculas, and Polyanthus, their place is in the border, not the rock garden, unless one is lucky enough to come on a yellow Auricula that approaches the wild plant in characteristics.

RAMONDA is, astonishingly, happy even in central New Jersey if grown on a northern exposure in soil full of humus. It detests any long exposure to sunlight. HABERLEA, closely related, needs the same conditions, and many gardeners find it easier, but in this garden it has never been a success.

RANUNCULUS, in spite of its wealth of beautiful species, is always sparingly represented in catalogs, and only *RR. gramineus* and *montanus* meet our needs. At all costs, avoid *R. repens fl. pl.*

RHODODENDRON requires special conditions, and the novice should first make certain that the dwarf species he wishes are happy in his locality.

SAXIFRAGA is essentially a cool-climate genus, easy enough in the North, but almost hopeless in the climate of central New Jersey. The encrusted group grows here with care-free abandon in most any location, though preferring light shade; in fact it is in general foolhardy to plant any saxifrage in a sunny spot. Of the encrusteds, *S. Macnabiana* (or what is sold under this name) is the most easy-going, and is not entirely unwilling to accept the weather in a lowland garden. Of the *S. Aizoon* varieties, the pinks, especially *S. Ai. rosea*, are particularly attractive in bloom, though all the yellows are difficult and feeble. *S. Ai. baldensis* is almost as minute as the tiniest Kabschia, but easy and vigorous; *S. valdensis* of one catalog is this plant. *SS. cochlearis*, *lingulata*, and *pyramidalis* complete the list of readily available kinds. The Kabschia and Engleria sections are somewhat tricky in the open, liking shade in limited quantity; being very shallow-rooted, they are easily killed by lack of adequate water. The mossy sorts seem to require more shade than any of the others, and even then are almost certain to brown in spots. But in a cool garden, where they are never permitted to become dry, the Saxifrages present no special problem.

SEDUM should be planted with extreme discretion in the small garden, for many are violent spreaders. *SS. pilosum* and *sempervivoides* are exquisite biennial jewels, but as for the rest of the clan, I don't care for them, don't grow them, and refuse to discuss them!

SEMPERVIVUMS will survive in virtually no soil, and in sunny parched locations, but most of them prefer more generous treatment. As few are rightly named, it is advisable to see the plants before one purchases. My favorites are *S. arachnoideum* and the vividly colored "Gamma."

SILENE *alpestris*, *caroliniana (pennsylvanica)*, *virginica*, and *Wherryi* are all highly desirable, though short-lived.

SPIRAEA *Normandii* is a particularly delightful miniature shrub, apparently a sport of *S. bumalda*, and in this garden has developed the unfortunate habit of reverting to the greater stature and much coarser growth of its parent. So far as I can discover, this phenomenon has not occurred elsewhere, so probably it is safe to include this gem among shrublets.

THYMUS: the choice upright species are not hardy in my garden, and the creepers creep far too widely, so that the only one now tolerated—and that perhaps unwisely—is the most attractive of all, *Th. Serpyllum lanuginosus*, which is relatively conservative in its dreams of empire.

VERONICA is likewise subject to the criticisms of the preceding paragraph (especially if one includes Hebe as a part) and in addition contains many very dull members. I hesitate to recommend any but *VV. gentianoides*, *incana*, and *repens*.

VIOLA: the true violets, like the hordes of Attila, have swept across my old garden, leaving devastation in their wake. The little pansies in some seasons do likewise, but being short-lived, pass on without damage. The cornuta varieties, and many named Violas, are too much like pansies to be appropriate in the rock garden, while named "species" are likely to be anything but true. I let V. Bowles' Black wander about in unimportant spots, delight from time to time in the tiny flowers of virtually annual *V. aetolica saxatilis*, should be extremely happy if I could once more obtain the true *V. bosniaca*, and tolerate fragrant lilac-pink *V. Jooii*, which though as free-seeding as any other true violet, is compact and short-lived. *V. pedata* in all its forms I love, but it is not a plant for every garden. The others (barring the true, and very difficult mountain pansies) I should banish if I could.

This brings to a close my list of recommended plants. More than a few easy and delightful ones have perforce been omitted because I cannot find them in catalogs. Other good ones which are readily obtainable have been eliminated because they are properly woodland rather than rock garden plants, though I have not always held too rigidly to this standard. Bulbs have been deliberately passed over because most of them call for autumn planting. Certainly, even with these deletions, I have offered you enough good and easy delights so that your gardens need no longer be barren, or clothed with *Phlox subulata* and Sedums.

## "WOODLAND"

ELSE M. FRYE, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

MAYBE it is the exigencies of these cruel times; maybe only the years that are crowding, but I definitely need and want the sanctuary that a little piece of woodland affords, quiet except for the rustle of birds; the sigh of the wind; the drip of rain. This feeling of healing could be absorbed from a spot of only a few square yards.

My own favorite spot is roughly 100 feet by 40 feet; I say roughly because it is not a rectangle. When we first moved to this place it was the last area to really take shape in my mind. There were two very large arbor-vitae trees, one at each end but fortunately not in a straight line with the property. Connecting the two were solid and army-straight phalanxes of sword and maidenhair ferns. Behind these were a pine, *Pinus monticola*; some sizeable Douglas fir, *Pseudotsuga taxifolia*; a jungle of saplings with much snowberry, *Symphoricarpos racemosus*. At the lower end at stream's edge were three large alders, *Alnus oregana* and clumps of vine maple, *Acer circinatum*, which carried across the stream. The upper end was completely blocked by a huge pile of debris, tin cans, broken crockery, branches, all more or less imbedded in good compost.

A little at a time it took form. First a wide gracious curve was plotted from the upper arbor-vitae to the lower and the intervening lawn was spaded and prepared for planting. And since this was fronting on the lawn and naturally conspicuous I used the bolder and brighter shade-lovers for this area. My old garden had been primarily a collector's garden with all my effort bent toward making the plants fit together in amity and harmony. Here I decided to have sweeps and drifts of splendid color. This is the wettest portion of the garden and the plants chosen fairly strutted their stuff. *Primula pulverulenta* Bartly strain made a sheet of delicious pink, the candelabra stems thirty inches tall; soft and deep crimson flowers of *Primula japonica* coming out of a froth of blue brightness of *Myosotis Blue Ball* were most lovely.

Closer to the ground and extending back under the tree is a carpet of *Primula rosea grandiflora*—I have never seen them more beautiful. Behind this was an area of summer and fall bloom. A great mass of *Peltiphyllum peltatum* was an accent against the lower arbor-vitae and up from this were masses of a clear, chartreuse Trollius; gold-yellow *Caltha palustris* and a great sweep of Astilbe; white, cream, pink and red of various heights making it much more interesting than if it were uniform.

This area is also shaded from the front by a magnificent Catalpa but as it curves around the upper arbor-vitae there is more sun and the ground is drier. There I have put in some Rhododendrons, species and hybrids, with low ground-covers such as *Pernettya Comberi*; *Gaulthetia* varieties; *Gaultheria cuneata*; *Calluna vulgaris* H. E. Beale and the white *Calluna vulgaris Searlei*. At the back are *Magnolia Soulangeana nigra* and a glorious mass of Forsythia. In and out among these are creamy *Erythronium californicum*; a group of rose-maroon *Erythronium Hendersonii* and one of live pink *E. Johnstonii* var. Rose Queen; pink Hepaticas for spring and a tiny pink Astilbe, *A. simplicifolia* takes over for late summer.

Things have a way of growing. New accents and more color were added as time went on and while this was not completed it was initiated by the end of the first summer. Still that pile of debris seemed to taunt and non-plus me with a sort of personal animus. But by the end of the next summer the bad had been separated from the good and I was not slow in finding places that were crying out for the rich leafmold. The back area was open and we could enter. We began to clean it out almost prayerfully; we did not want to harm it. Dead branches were cut out; the saplings that had no chance under the shade canopy of the older trees were removed; the beautiful snowberry which can be such a murderous pest was eradicated—we hope! The ferns were dug up and set aside.

We now have a path through this—we had little to do with plotting it—it just naturally took off in a swaying way, past this tree and that. It would have been very awkward to force it elsewhere. Of necessity we had to bring in soil to fill up the holes and while not level there is a pleasant feel to it.

On the right of the path we put in some small pines which will ultimately be the heavy part of the planting; they are near the boundary but not in line. Among them are many Rhododendrons, large and small and where we approach the more open portion near the stream, azaleas; *Vaccinium parvifolium*; salal, *Gaultheria Shallon*; deciduous Magnolias; *Styrax obovata* and *Ginkgo biloba*. And next came the groundcovers; we were now ready to make use of the ferns, *Polystichum munitum* and *Adiantum pedatum* as well as deer fern, *Lomaria spicant*; *Polystichum Andersonii* which I had had the fun of growing from buds as well as many English cristate varieties, many of them also grown from buds. These were arranged more or less on both sides of the path which definitely made the whole area one.

Also intermixed were Solomon's seal; false Solomon's seal; grass-leaved iris species; *Actaea spicata* and its white-berried form; *Polemonium caeruleum*; *Polemonium carneum*; *Anchusa myosotidiflora*; *Primula Sieboldii* with lovely crinkled foliage topped with large soft flowers of pink, white and crimson. The three species of Vancouveria—hexandra; chrysantha and parviflora—are at home here, together with the gingers, *Asarum caudatum* and *A. Howellii*. Pink-flowered *Oxalis oregana*; white Dicentra sweetheart; *Sisyrinchium bellum*; *S. brachypus* and such oddments as *Scoliopus Biglovii* and *Clintonia Andrewsiana* find places to their liking. The trunks of trees make a perfect background for the Cyripedium species.

The very edges of the path were reserved for low-growing treasures: Trailing arbutus, *Epigaea repens*, and *Gaultheria procumbens* made a cover on this side of the arbor-vitae. Through this pops in early spring and late summer enchanting hardy Cyclamen in white, pink and crimson. *Omphalodes cappadocica* grows lushly in the shade—I have hopes its seedlings will be spattered over the area. *Trillium ovatum*; the double-flowered bloodroot; the blue *Jeffersonia dubia* as well as *J. diphylla*; the small *Asplenium viride*; the lovely *Primula Clarkei*; *Coptis asplenifolia*; *Shortia galacifolia* and its relatives from across the Pacific, *Shortia uniflora grandiflora* and the *Schizocodon* varieties; *Soldanella montana*; blue Hepatica; all the *Anemone nemorosa* varieties make a pastel-colored garland.

The lower ground is quite unfinished but come another summer the planting will be continued. Down the trail I wander every morning immediately after breakfast—it is a ritual! I am very happy to have this space so well-suited for a wild garden but I could do with much less. With a few square yards I should begin with a pine, short-needed, and against it might be a green-leaved Japanese maple; *Pieris japonica* and *Vaccinium ovatum*. I should try to keep the foliage quiet but lovely. *Vaccinium Vitis-Idaea* and *Gaultheria Miqueliana* should cover the ground. A clump of Trillium; blue Hepatica; yellow *Narcissus Bulbocodium citrinus* and purple violets might finish the planting. And to bring the birds, a sparkle of water in a shallow bowl, not one I could buy but something shaped with my own hands, the swirling imprints of my fingers left on it. More space, more elaboration but finally a beauty spot!

## ANNUAL MEETING

This year the New York Botanical Garden will play host to the Society Saturday, May 17th. The Botanical Garden at Bronx Park is easily reached by train or subway. Cars may enter opposite the New York Central Botanical Garden railway station.

At 10 A.M. the picturesque tractor train will pick up the members and take them on a conducted tour of the Garden, lasting one hour. Then at 11 A.M. we will inspect the Thompson Memorial Rock Garden at leisure, remaining there until about 12:15, when it will be time to wander over to the Administration Building for a picnic lunch. Members will bring their own food, but the garden will serve tea and coffee.

The meeting and election of officers will be held about 2 o'clock in the Administration Building.

At 3:30 we will go downstairs to attend a lecture by Dr. John D. Dwyer on Alpine Flora of the Adirondacks, illustrated with Kodachrome slides.

After the lecture, members may disperse to revisit the Thompson Memorial Rock Garden or other centers of interest.

## CONCERNING LIMESTONE AND LIME

DORETTA KLABER, QUAKERTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

I JUST READ the latest Bulletin with great interest. In your discussion of limestone rock gardens I think you should put in big black print what you say about the most appropriate rock being that which is native to the locality. Of course, in sections of the country without native rock, one takes what one can get, and preferably weathered limestone.

As to plants that demand acid or limestone soil reaction, there are undoubtedly some plants that are fussy on the subject, but my experience has been,



especially with plants raised from seed, that most plants will adapt themselves to the soil provided they are given the moisture or the shade or the sun or the drought that they like. Time and again I have grown plants successfully only to read later that they should or shouldn't have lime (the opposite of what they were getting). In the soil that I acidified for blueberries and heathers, pinks have a way of self-sowing, and Irises that shouldn't like acid conditions thrive, etc.

Garden conditions vary so, not only from one section of the country to another, but even in the same section, that it seems impossible to lay down any hard and fast rules on the subject. One authority says, "All gentians need some shade." Mine have done best in full sun. One says no lime in the soil for gentians. Mine thrive in a soil with a lime reaction. And so it goes. I think each gardener has to learn as much as possible about the natural environment of his plants, and try to approximate the desert or mountain or bog or scree from which they come. Shade-loving plants won't do in a desert and vice versa . . . but as for lime or no lime, I think that need is grossly exaggerated.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

This is a song of praise for the Seed Exchange. Miss Harding sent *Primula frondosa*, *P. involucrata* and *P. officinalis*. Never in the history of Primulas have seeds come up with such dizzy speed and riotous abundance.

ALIDA LIVINGSTON, Oyster Bay, N. Y.

I have just received the November-December number of the Bulletin and find a number of controversial matters in it. Being a new member of the Society, I don't know the previous correspondence concerning *Phlox adsurgens*, but in parts of England this plant flourishes. I remember in the early 1930s seeing great mats of it in full bloom in the garden of the late Mr. Millard in Sussex, and I have also seen it in a number of other gardens. I must confess that I have not myself succeeded with it, but have always blamed the lime in my soil for my failure. I have not yet however given up hopes of finding some way to satisfy it.

The two articles on "Mixed Planting" and "Hybrids" both lead to the same thoughts on my part. I always consider that a garden should reflect the individuality of the owner, and in planning my own garden have consistently ignored the rules and regulations laid down by landscape architects and such people. It happens to be my garden, and if it pleases me, surely that is all that matters. Actually it has delighted many scores of people, and a 17-year-old youth, having to write an essay for his school certificate on "My Ideal Garden" took it as his subject. But I am quite sure that if it were entered in a garden competition, the judges would leave it unplaced.

I like the garden to be natural, and so self-sown seedlings are usually welcomed. If bulbs sow themselves among dwarf conifers and flower there, that is because the conditions there suit them, and thus I don't think they look out of place. Other people like a more formal effect and are offended by the sight of one plant trespassing on the place allotted to another species. There is room for both styles. The slavish copying of any style of gardening is, in my opinion, to be deplored. At the last of our Chelsea shows that I visited, there was a big range of rock gardens, but all so much alike that it was difficult to see where one ended and the next started.

With regard to hybrids again there is room for more than one point of view. Where masses of color are the chief aim, hybrids certainly have much

to recommend them. Many first generation hybrids, too, are as distinctive as the species, and we do, in fact, find natural hybrids that might easily be mistaken for true species. But I dislike the continual crossing of hybrids so that the distinctiveness of the original parents is entirely lost. A drab uniformity of habit is produced, the only variation being in the size and color of the flowers. Then too, far too many individuals are selected and named, many of them differing only in minute details. A full list of *Kabschia saxifrages* would now number many dozens, but the really distinctive ones, apart from the true species, are relatively few. Many years ago, when I first started with an alpine garden, I ordered a selection of plants including four named *Kabschias*. I was very disappointed when they flowered to find that they were so much alike I could only recognize them by their labels. Now that the labels have gone, I have no idea which is which. The same thing is now happening with the Asiatic gentians. It is time that some scheme were devised by which only really distinctive hybrids should be honored by a distinctive name.

R. GINNS, Desborough, England

---

Have had an interesting experience with my *Zephyranthes* (fairy lily) bulbs. Last spring I brought the pots from their resting place to grow as usual. Leaves grew rapidly, but no bloom. As usual, after the leaves died down I placed the pots under a shrub, where I forgot them. In fall when I went for them, they were frozen solid, for we had very cold weather early. I brought them to the basement, thinking to thaw the soil and discard the bulbs, as I felt they must be ruined. When a few days later I went to get them, small green leaves were showing, and in about ten days I had the most beautiful blooms I had ever seen, darker pink, larger, and bloom on every bulb.

MRS. RALPH DENHAM, Scarborough, Maine

---

It seems to me that Mr. Will Ingwersen, in the January-February Bulletin, does not present a good comparison between *Saxifraga cortusaefolia* and *S. Fortunei*.

He says that *S. cortusaefolia* lacks the rich coloring on the reverse side of the foliage which is present in *S. Fortunei*.

I have grown *S. cortusaefolia* which showed a very clear maroon red on the lower surface of the leaves. I have no doubt that of both species forms may be found which lack this coloring.

The most conspicuous difference between the two kinds appears to be that in *S. Fortunei* the elongated petals are clearly serrate to more or less lacinate, while in *S. cortusaefolia* they are entire.

The two species were compared by Maximowicz in his "Brief Diagnoses of New Japanese and Mandschurian Plants" (Bull. Acad. Sci. St. Petersburg, 1871). In this treatment he reduces *S. Fortunei* to varietal rank under *S. cortusaefolia*—with a question mark. In Engler's Monograph both species are maintained. But Franchet agreed with Maximowicz and regarded *S. Fortunei* as a variety of *S. cortusaefolia*.

The last-named went through the hardest winters at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., completely unharmed, over a long period of years. Maximowicz reported it wild near the City of Hakodata, on the Island of Hokkaido, where the climate is undoubtedly rugged.

P. J. VAN MELLE, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

New members of the Society may not be aware of the large and growing collection of color transparencies available for meetings and gatherings anywhere in the country. There is no better way of promoting interest in rock gardening than showing on a screen selected views of successful plantings, and close-ups of choice alpine in their prime. Such showings can enliven not only group meetings of rock gardeners, but garden clubs and other organizations of appreciative people.

Let each member consider obtaining the Society's collection for some appropriate occasion. There is no charge except the cost of transportation.

Even more important, the Society would like to have your best views of your own rock garden. Send color transparencies of standard size to Mrs. Warder I. Higgins, 429 West Park Street, Butte, Montana.

## REPORT OF COLLECTOR OF SLIDES

MRS. WARDER I. HIGGINS, BUTTE, MONTANA

We have a fine collection of 134 slides, accompanied by a syllabus: Eastern and Western Rock Gardens. Since the set was assembled, Ralph Bennett presented the Society with 19 slides of his rock garden. I suggest that we divide the slides into two sets, one of eastern, one of western gardens. I hope to secure for the east views of one of the most beautiful rock gardens in the country, that of Walter D. Blair.

In the collection now available are 18 slides of Mrs. Clement Houghton's gold medal rock garden, 35 of the F. Cleveland Morgan garden, 4 from Harold Epstein of Epimedium and Sanguinaria, 31 of the world-famous Ohme gardens at Wenatchee, Washington, 6 of the Reau Chalet garden, 4 of the Presbyterian Church wall garden at Butte, 3 of Floyd McMullen's rock garden, 9 of my wildflower and rock garden on Frost King Mountain. There are also one or two slides each from the following members: F. T. Fisher, Clarence L. Hay, Mrs. Grover C. Richards, Ralph Bennett, Mrs. E. M. Bowman, Mrs. Else M. Frye, Mrs. L. N. Roberson, Mrs. George Johnson, Mrs. J. M. Miller, Mrs. Carl Neufelder.

During the past year, the slides were shown at meetings of the Wisconsin Iris Society, the New England Group of the A.R.G.S. at Boston, the Men's Garden Club of Syracuse, N. Y., the Garden Club of Arlington, Va., the Wildflower Preservation Society and the Montana Unit of the A.R.G.S. and two meetings of A.R.G.S. members in New Jersey.

These slides may be obtained by members of the Society on payment of the transportation charges. Non-members pay a rental fee of \$5.00 in addition to transportation charges.

## A UNIQUE VOLUME

The Report of last year's International Rock Garden Plant Conference, held in London and Edinburgh, is now available as a bound volume of 225 pages. Members of the Alpine Garden Society and the Scottish Rock Garden Club have already received notice of the publication. Others can obtain it from the Secretary of the Alpine Garden Society, whose address appears in our advertising pages. Price 15 shillings. It contains a score of papers on rock gardening, plant hunting and related subjects, and will make a most valuable addition to any rock gardener's library.

# SALUDA INN

High in the Blue Ridge, and within easy driving distance of the Great Smokies, a fellow rock gardener would welcome you to winter or summer vacationing or all-year retirement. Simple living, natural beauty, a paradise for botanists and bird lovers. Prices are reasonable. Write to . . .

MRS. C. W. MASON, SALUDA, NORTH CAROLINA

## EXETER WILD FLOWER GARDENS

*Native American Ferns and Wild Flowers*

**Isaac Langley Williams**

P. O. Box 352

Exeter, New Hampshire

*Catalogue on Request*

## GREAT PLAINS PLANTS

*Are Worthy of Close Investigation*

Creeping Phlox, non-climbing Clematis, all-season Evening Primroses, brilliant Penstemons, fine dwarf Asters, *Viola montanensis* and *Nuttalii*, a charming dwarf open-sun *Mertensia*, *Anemone caroliniana*, Cushion *Astragal*. Also shrubs, bulbs, seeds.

— Ask for a Catalog —

**CLAUDE A. BARR**

Prairie Gem Ranch

Smithwick, South Dakota

### GROUND COVERS

for Patio, Walk or Bank

*Acaena glauca*, *Arenaria balearica*, *Luetkea pectinata*, *Mazus reptans*, *Mentha Requieni*, *Potentilla cinerea*, *Thymus Serpyllum* and many others.

L. N. ROBERSON

1540 E. 102nd Street, Seattle 55, Wash.

### DWARF DAFFODILS

for Rock Gardeners

112 Choice Varieties

Old and New Types

*Write for our Blue Ribbon List*

**The Daffodil Mart**

Nuttal P. O., Gloucester, Va.

## Here are "Different" Flowers



3000 rare beauties that will make your garden distinctive—and delightful. Our Catalog, Seeds-Plants-Bulbs, will interest in word and picture.

Ask for your copy.

REX D. PEARCE

Moorestown

New Jersey

## RARE ALPINES

from the

WORLD'S FAR CORNERS

Besides Alpines many rare and interesting varieties of Azaleas, Heathers, Primulas and Rhododendron species are listed in our catalogue.

Please Ask For It

ALPENGLOW GARDENS

MICHAUD & COMPANY

R.R. 4, New Westminster, B. C., Canada

## PETRIFIED PLANTS

THE REMAINS OF THE  
OLDEST KNOWN PLANTS

(Now Hard Limestone)

Available in unique shapes. Some are natural bird baths. Others are beautiful pieces for the building of rock gardens.

Also on request, "A Story in Stone" by Harold Orville Whitnall, Prof. of Geology, Colgate University, which tells of the marvelous display of the earliest forms of life at Petrified Gardens.

## THE PETRIFIED GARDENS

Mr. and Mrs. Robert R. Ritchie, Proprietors

SARATOGA SPRINGS, NEW YORK

## RARE ALPINES

That Are Not Hard to Grow

Special to readers of "The Bulletin" Three each of the following: ASTER FARRERI, CALCEOLARIA POLYRHIZA, DIANTHUS SAMMY, and IRIS CRISTATA ALBA. Twelve plants freshly dug from the open ground for \$5.40 by mail prepaid.

Order now for Spring delivery, supply is limited.

N. A. HALLAUER

Route No. 2

Webster, N. Y.

## Carroll Gardens Spring Catalogue

Your Guide to Better  
Gardening — Now Ready!

Features the world's finest Perennials, Roses, Bulbs, Shrubs, Vines, Wild Flowers, etc. Beautifully illustrated in natural colors.

FREE — Write for your copy now.

CARROLL GARDENS

WESTMINSTER 8, MARYLAND

## BACK VOLUMES OF THE BULLETIN

The following complete volumes of the Bulletin are available at \$2.50 per volume:

18 Volume 2 (1944)

15 Volume 3 (1945)

9 Volume 4 (1946)

These volumes are a gold mine of information. Many single copies from incomplete volumes are on hand also. If you wish to complete your file, write to . . .

AMERICAN ROCK GARDEN SOCIETY

BOX 151

POMPTON LAKES, N. J.

# Mayfair NURSERIES

## ROCK PLANT SPECIALISTS

Box 87

Hillsdale, N. J.

Offers You A Long List of Choice and Rare

## ROCK PLANTS ALL POT GROWN

FOR BETTER PLANTS AND SAFER TRANSPLANTING

Our highly descriptive and illustrated catalog contains hundreds of noteworthy plants — free to members of the American Rock Garden Society, 25 cents to all others.

Visit our better, larger and easier-to-find nursery on Ruckman Road, in Hillsdale, New Jersey, just a twenty minute drive from the George Washington Bridge.

WALTER A. KOLAGA, *Proprietor*

*Colorful*

### SEMPERVIVUMS

10 Varieties (labeled)

Prepaid \$2.00

Over 100 Different Varieties

**MacPherson Gardens**



2920 Starr Ave.

Toledo 5, Ohio

"Make A Hobby of Hardy Sempervivums"

*Primula Juliae Hybrids*

*Choice Rock Plants*

*Dwarf Shrubs*

*Iris*

Catalog on Request

**Carl Starker Gardens**

JENNINGS LODGE

OREGON

### HARDY PLANTS

*of the*

### BLUE RIDGE

We can furnish hardy perennials, native Orchids, Ferns for Rock and Bog Gardens, Lilies for naturalizing Vines, Climbers, Rhododendrons, Azaleas, native Evergreen and Deciduous Trees.

100 ROCK GARDEN PLANTS  
(Specify Sun or Shade) \$13.50

100 NATIVE ORCHIDS  
(Shade or Partial Shade) \$21.75

WRITE FOR PLANT LIST

**GARDENS**

*of the BLUE RIDGE*

E. C. ROBBINS, Nurseryman

BOX 8

ASHFORD, McDOWELL CO., N. C.

